IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

11.9.00

APPLN. OF:

TANABE et al

FILED:

JULY 7, 2000

FOR:

SEMICONDUCTOR THIN FILM FORMING SYSTEM

DOCKET:

NEC WNZ-2212

BOX PATENT APPLICATION Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that you make the following amendment prior to examination.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 15 as follows:

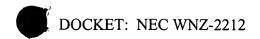
15. (Amended) A system according to [any of claims 9-13] <u>claim 9</u>, wherein said different process chamber comprises a plasma generating source for generating plasma in a predetermined area of said different process chamber, said substrate being placed in an area in said different process chamber other than said predetermined area.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to remove multiple dependencies. The Applicants request that the filing fee be calculated based on the claims as amended. Examination of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

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In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted:

Noman Solmay

Norman P. Soloway Attorney for Applicant

Reg. No. 24,315

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

"Express Mail" Mailing Label No. <u>EL384863690US</u> Date of Deposit: <u>July 7, 2000</u>

I hereby certify that this paper and the papers listed thereon are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to BOX PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner of Patents, US Patent and Trademark Office, Incoming Mailroom, 1B01 Crystal Plaza 2, 2021 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202-3602.

Signature of Person Mailing Carol McCalland

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